

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Claims 1 to 5 (previously cancelled)

Claim 6 (currently amended)

An agent comprising the protein of claim 14 containing an effective amount of the protein for ~~preventing and~~ treating a disease affecting bone and/or cartilage.

Claim 7 (previously amended)

The agent for treating a disease affecting bone and/or cartilage according to claim 6, wherein the disease is osteoporosis.

Claim 8 (previously amended)

The agent for treating a disease affecting bone and/or cartilage according to claim 6, wherein the disease is osteoarthritis or arthroseitis.

Claim 9 (previously amended)

The agent for treating a disease affecting bone and/or cartilage according to claim 6, wherein the disease is bone fracture.

Claim 10 (previously amended)

The agent for treating a disease affecting bone and/or cartilage according to claim 6, wherein the disease is a lack of root of teeth and a tooth socket.

Claims 11 to 13 (previously cancelled).

Claim 14 (currently amended)

~~The~~ A MP52 protein ~~according to claim 13~~, comprising an amino acid sequence as shown in SEQ ID No: 2 of the sequence listing.